

EBSA News



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MEDIA ADVISORY

HIPAA and Other Health Laws: Utah Compliance Assistance Seminar

WASHINGTON--The Compliance Assistance Seminar sponsored by the U. S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) and the Utah Department of Insurance, will take place in Salt Lake City, on July 17-18, 2003 at the Red Lion Hotel, 161 West 600 South.

The seminar is part of an ongoing series of seminars sponsored by the Labor Department under its Health Benefits Education Campaign (HBEC). The campaign helps workers and employers, especially small businesses, understand their rights and obligations under various health benefit laws.

On July 17, the session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The session on "HIPAA Portability and Availability" will present basic requirements for group health plan administrators and group health insurance issuers on health coverage provisions under Part 7 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act. The session also will provide an overview of the department's new HIPAA Compliance Assistance Program (H-CAP) and discussion of administrative simplification requirements. The "COBRA" session will feature a detailed discussion about new IRS/COBRA guidance as well as a discussion of compliance-related issues under Utah's COBRA provisions. A new session has been added to meet employers' need for information to comply with the Department of Health and Human Service's HIPAA privacy requirements.

The July 18 session is from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. It is a compliance assistance workshop that is part of DOL's H-CAP program. DOL staff and seminar attendees will walk through a self-audit checklist line-by-line. Examples will be given of group health plan provisions or practices that would not comply with the law followed by tips on how to bring group health plans into compliance.

Panel participants will include representatives from EBSA, the Utah Department of Insurance, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Registration is on a first come, first served basis, with only limited spaces available. Interested parties should register early by email to: Deborah A. Milne at damilne@msn.com. For registration information, contact EBSA at www.dol.gov/ebsa or (315) 762-4665.

Upcoming seminars will be held in:

- Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (September 8, 2003)
- Austin, Texas (September 18, 2003)
- North Carolina (October 2003)

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